REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Preliminary Amendment, the application has been amended to conform with U.S. practice, the cross-reference to related applications has been inserted on page 1. The claims have been amended in order to remove the multiple dependency. New claim 19 has been added. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted.
Elena CATTANEO ET AL 1 PO

By:

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Express Mail No.: EV 493 842 112 US Date of Deposit: OCTOBER 18, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450.

Maria Guastella